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Brian W. Hameder  
Name

Brian W. Hameder  
Signature

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Atsushi HAYAKAWA et al. )

)

) Group Art Unit: 1752

SERIAL NO: 10/074,359 )

)

FILED: February 12, 2002 )

) Examiner: Hoa Van Le

TITLE: METHOD OF STERILIZATION FOR CONTAINER, APPARATUS  
USING THEREFORE, AND HEAT TREATMENT FOR CONTAINER

THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for reply set to expire on November 6, 2003.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner made a restriction requirement, under 35 U.S.C. §121, between Group I Claims 1-8 and 17, and Group II, Claims 9-16. Applicant elects the Group I claims, (Claims 1-8 and 17).

In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

November 5, 2003  
Date

Brian W. Hameder  
Attorney for Applicant  
Brian W. Hameder  
c/o Ladas & Parry  
224 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
(312) 427-1300  
Reg. No. 45613